

56-3360

17 September 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

1. On this date Mr. Garrison and [REDACTED] met with Mr. Harrison 25X1A9a and Mr. Beach of the staff of the Joint Committee on Printing to discuss the most recent developments in connection with the transfer of the GPO-State Service Printing Plant to the Agency. The background of this situation was reviewed starting with the Director's letter of 4 July 1956 to the Public Printer which indicated that the Agency would like to consider transfer of this plant to Agency control for consolidation with the Agency printing facilities in the new headquarters area to be located at Langley, Virginia. The Public Printer's favorable reply of 9 July 1956 was mentioned, as were resultant discussions with GPO officials at which complete agreement on all phases of the transfer was reached. Also mentioned was the fact that the staff of the Joint Committee on Printing had agreed to this transfer on the basis of the merger with the Agency facilities in the new headquarters area. It was explained that on the basis of these agreements the Agency had gone ahead on all aspects of the merger. Verbal agreement of the Department of State and the Atomic Energy Commission has been obtained and letters have been written to these agencies requesting formal concurrence.

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2. It was then mentioned that a new development was the fact that the Agency may encounter difficulty in obtaining sufficient funds with which to construct sufficient space to house all of its fixed plant facilities and all of its personnel. Mr. Garrison pointed out that one of the possibilities considered in this connection was the omission of the main printing plant from the headquarters area, and its retention in its present location in [REDACTED]. It was also mentioned that if it was found necessary to do this, there would be a small facility located in the headquarters building for the purpose of furnishing rush work, and the GPO facility would be merged with the main Agency facility in its [REDACTED] location. It was emphasized that this was considered as a possibility only in the event that it was found impossible to include the complete printing facility in the headquarters area.

3. Mr. Harrison and Mr. Beach expressed grave concern over any development which would make it necessary to omit the complete printing plant from the headquarters building or immediate area. Mr. Harrison stated that the committee had always felt that our printing was actually the sum and substance of all of our work, and as such should receive the

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utmost security safeguards. He said that this certainly dictated that the production of all of the Agency's classified printing be in the headquarters building or the immediate area. The main reason for this, Mr. Harrison felt, was that classified printing should not be trucked great distances in bulk quantities. He said that the committee looked upon this as a grave security hazard, and felt that such situations were at least partial justification for the broad exemptions from printing regulations which the Agency enjoys. Mr. Harrison also pointed out that the committee had objected to the location of the Agency's main printing plant in [REDACTED] for this very reason, and that they would look with disfavor upon the Agency continuing to produce its classified printing in this location with the headquarters building located at Langley, Virginia. It was pointed out that [REDACTED] is further from Langley than Washington, and the roads are not nearly as good as those servicing Langley from Washington. Mr. Harrison further stated that in his opinion the Agency decision to omit most any other of its activities or functions from the main building or immediate area would be preferable to omitting the printing plant. Mr. Beach added that from a practical standpoint it would be cheaper to put the printing plant in the building now rather than later on, as construction costs will certainly continue to rise.

4. While Mr. Harrison and Mr. Beach made no decision with respect to the merger of the GPO facility with the Agency facilities and locating the combined facility at [REDACTED] the above indicated that such agreement, if obtained, would indeed be reluctantly given. Before leaving, Mr. Garrison emphasized again that the purpose of this discussion was to inform Mr. Harrison and Mr. Beach of the most recent developments, and to mention the possibility of the printing plant being omitted from the headquarters area although our objective is to have it located there.

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OL/PSD [REDACTED] jmck/4237 (19 Sept 1956)

*Consensus as to content*